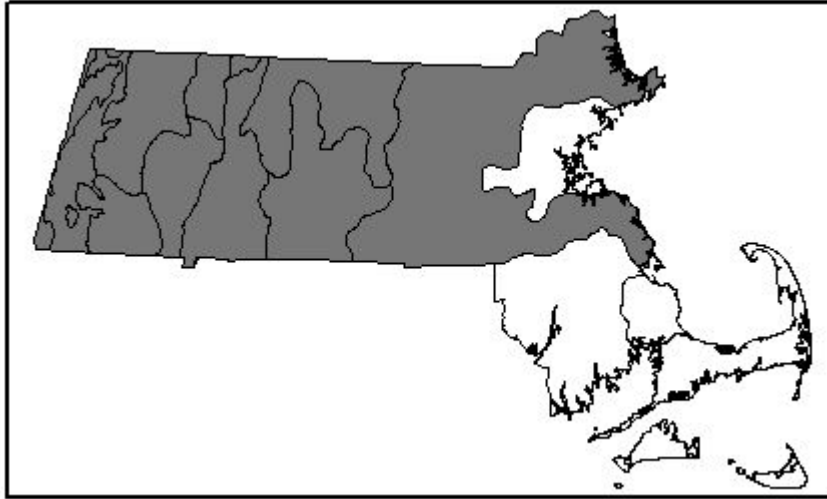


Community Name: NORTHERN HARDWOODS - HEMLOCK – WHITE PINE FOREST
Community Code: CT1C000000
SRANK: S5



Concept: Closed canopy forest dominated by a mix of evergreen and deciduous trees, with sparse shrub and herbaceous layers.

Environmental Setting: Widespread in dry to mesic, moderately acidic conditions with moderate levels of nutrients. North facing slopes and ravines, and northern areas.

Vegetation Description: The community type ranges from Hemlock in pure stands to a deciduous forest with scattered hemlocks. There are variable combinations of hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), yellow birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), and red oak (*Quercus rubra*), and white pine (*Pinus strobus*). Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) occur on southeast facing slopes. There are often scattered paper birch (*Betula papyrifera*), aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), and red maple (*Acer rubrum*). The shrub layer is usually open, but, often containing scattered clumps of hobblebush (*Viburnum lantanoides*), red-berried elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa* ssp. *pubens*), fly-honeysuckle (*Lonicera canadensis*), and striped maple (*Acer pensylvanicum*). The herbaceous layer is sparse, but fairly diverse, with intermediate woodfern (*Dryopteris intermedia*), Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*), clubmosses (*Lycopodium* spp.), Canada mayflower (*Maianthemum canadense*), white wood aster (*Aster divaricatus*), and wild sarsaparilla (*Aralia nudicaulis*). Occasional spring herbaceous species include painted trillium (*Trillium undulatum*), early yellow violet (*Viola rotundifolia*), broad-leaved spring beauty (*Claytonia caroliniana*), and trout-lily (*Erythronium americanum*).

Associations:

Habitat Values for Associated Fauna: Many animal species use parts of this type of forest, but geographical variation, structure, size, and local conditions will affect which actual species are present. Many species of neo-tropical migrant songbirds nest in large numbers in larger occurrences, including a variety of warblers. Blackburnian warblers (*Dendroica fusca*) are particularly closely associated with hemlock stands. Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), Barred Owl (*Strix varia*), and Pileated Woodpeckers (*Dryocopus pileatus*) are also to be expected. Mammals include red squirrels (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*), gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), chipmunks (*Tamias striatus*), redbacked vole (*Clethrionomys gapperi*), short-tailed shrew (*Blarina brevicauda*), masked and smoky shrews (*Sorex cinereus* and *S. fumeus*), and white-footed mouse (*Peromyscus leucopus*). At elevation, deer mouse (*P. maniculatus*) and woodland jumping mouse (*Napaeozapus insignis*) also occur in the forest type. Amphibians include redbacked salamanders (*Plethodon cinereus*) and wood frogs (*Rana sylvatica*); and expected reptiles include redbelly snakes (*Storeria o. occipitomaculata*).

